

## INTER-AMERICAN HIGHWAY

*Exchange of notes at Guatemala May 19, 1943*

*Entered into force May 19, 1943*

*Amended by agreements of May 18, 1948,<sup>1</sup> and July 28 and August 28, 1954<sup>2</sup>*

57 Stat. 1111; Executive Agreement Series 345

*The Minister of Foreign Affairs to the American Ambassador*

[TRANSLATION]

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS  
REPUBLIC OF GUATEMALA  
Diplomatic Section  
No. 6756

693 (73-0)

GUATEMALA, May 19, 1943

MR. AMBASSADOR:

I have the honor to refer to the kind note no. 32 of the Legation of the United States of February 16, 1942, in which my attention is called to the provisions of public law no. 375 of the United States of December 26, 1941,<sup>3</sup> which provides for the cooperation of the United States with the Central American Republics for the construction of the Inter-American Highway.

Although there is already a continuous road across Guatemala, my Government has been informed that the improvement of certain sections of that road is very desirable, in order that it may conform to the types of construction considered for the Inter-American Highway. Accordingly, my Government desires to request the cooperation of the United States Government, under the provisions of the said law, in accordance with the following terms:

(1) The Government of the Republic of Guatemala agrees with pleasure that engineers designated by the two Governments should express jointly, after such study as they may deem proper, what are the changes which should be made in each section of the Pan American Highway that the Government of Guatemala has built. My Government would assume the obligation to pay one third of the cost of the work, provided that the execution of the said work is accommodated to the sums determined and fixed by the budget of the Republic for each fiscal year.

<sup>1</sup> TIAS 2001, *post*, p. 596.

<sup>2</sup> 5 UST 2244; TIAS 3084.

<sup>3</sup> 55 Stat. 860.

(2) The Government of Guatemala, bearing in mind its fiscal situation and the sums allowed by the Legislative Assembly for the improvement of the highway, will ask the cooperation of the United States Government to accomplish this improvement of the sections of the highway.

(3) The Government of Guatemala accepts very gratefully the contribution of the United States consisting of double the amount allocated in the fiscal budget of the Republic of Guatemala to the improvement of the Inter-American Highway.

The United States Public Roads Administration will have the right to make inspections, through delegates, of the works for improving and perfecting the highway and the exact investment of the funds allocated for that purpose.

The technical intervention and the supervisory action of control of funds will be exercised by the United States Public Roads Administration through its delegates. The Government of Guatemala will be very much pleased to have the Department of State intervene in any of the negotiations which are to be carried out with the Republic of Guatemala, which is, it goes without saying, agreeable to cooperating with the purposes of law 375, in the way that has been stated, in view of the special circumstances of the highway which Guatemala has built at its own expense, and it will always be glad to have such negotiations carried out through the Department of State.

I shall be very grateful if Your Excellency would inform me whether your Government would be disposed to grant its cooperation on these terms.

Please accept, Mr. Ambassador, the renewed assurances of my highest and most distinguished consideration.

CARLOS SALAZAR

His Excellency

BOAZ LONG

*Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
of the United States,  
City.*

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*The American Ambassador to the Minister of Foreign Affairs*

EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
*Guatemala, May 19, 1943*

No. 120

EXCELLENCY:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's kind Note No. 6756 of May 19, 1943, in which you request the cooperation of the United States in the improvement of the Inter-American Highway in

Guatemala and in which you propose a basis upon which the cooperation of my Government might be extended within the provisions of Public Law 375 of December 26, 1941.

The basis of cooperation proposed by Your Excellency is satisfactory to my Government, and it will be pleased to cooperate on this basis in such survey and construction work as may jointly be deemed desirable for the improvement of the Guatemalan section of the Inter-American Highway, subject to the appropriation of the necessary funds by the Congress of the United States.

I am much gratified at the prospect that through this cooperative undertaking it will be possible to improve the Guatemalan Section of the Inter-American Highway. Transportation facilities will be improved, new lands and new natural resources developed, additional markets opened, and local economic conditions benefited through the useful expenditure of money which this project envisages. I sincerely trust that the Highway will serve not only as a link to increase material intercourse between our nations but also as another bond in the close friendship which unites us.

Please accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

BOAZ LONG